

status awarded by the State of California and the five-year approval period is the maximum permissible under California law.

Recently the University became eligible to seek accreditation by a national accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. Recognizing the importance of accreditation to the credibility of the University, I urge the accrediting body to review William Howard Taft University in an objective and timely manner.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY,
WORK, AND FAMILY PROMOTION
ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I voted against the rule and H.R. 4700 because they do not address the transportation needs of TANF program participants and this rule does not provide any opportunity for members to support a Mobile Allowance program for TANF participants.

It is time to admit that the working poor cannot keep their jobs if they cannot get to work. The working poor are fighting to overcome poverty. They are hard working Americans who are struggling to keep low paying jobs, hoping to find a way out of their poverty. Their family resources are most limited. These households can barely meet their basic needs. Very often they have no chance of ever accumulating the savings needed for unexpected financial needs. TANF recipients have few assets and very often a poor credit history. These circumstances make it almost impossible for the working poor to ever acquire automobiles. And yet, we know that transportation is the key to helping people keep their jobs. Without transportation, the working poor risk losing their jobs and remaining confined to the cycle of poverty. Studies have shown that when the working poor are given the help they need to stay employed, their use of public assistance drops significantly.

If this body is going to authorize a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program we must at the very least, recognize that such a program should address the transportation needs of the working poor or we must admit that TANF has very little chance of genuinely helping families overcome poverty.

The role of transportation in the successful transition from welfare to work cannot be overstated. It is time to include the transportation issue in the debate about how to improve Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. TANF is meant to provide a safety net for the poor and a lifeline to economic stability. The TANF program cannot achieve this goal without addressing the critical link between jobs and transportation. Some states have already established programs to help TANF participants meet their transportation needs. It is time to ensure that all States address this need and establish a Mobile Allowance program.

HONORING MS. ALLISON GLOVER

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine from the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, Ms. Allison Glover of Stone Mountain. On Tuesday of this week, Ms. Glover testified in front of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee in support of increased funding for the National Institutes for Health. The purpose of Ms. Glover's testimony was to raise congressional awareness of the silent killer, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome SIDS. Those familiar with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome understand that despite scientific research no direct cause has been found for the deaths of close to 3,000 infants a year in the United States.

Ms. Glover is not your average government relations professional or lobbyist. Ms. Glover and her family are survivors. In May 2000, Ms. Glover and her husband lost their happy and healthy first-born son, Garrett, to SIDS. Garrett was peacefully sleeping in his cradle next to his parents, when he passed away.

However, Ms. Glover channeled her grief and pain into activism. Ms. Glover's perseverance despite the loss of her child serves as a role model for all of us. Ms. Glover has since become an activist for SIDS research, working toward a goal of the eradication of SIDS.

Today, Allison Glover is the SIDS Training Coordinator with the Georgia SIDS/OID Information and Counseling Program. This program offers comprehensive bereavement support services to all Georgia families who have experienced an infant death. The program also offers SIDS training courses to parents, healthcare professionals, first responders and child care providers. All of these programs are offered to the public at no cost. Ms. Glover honorably works to prevent her tragedy from becoming the tragedy of others.

I salute Ms. Allison Glover for her courage in turning a terrible personal tragedy into positive public service for her community.

STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN
MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this Spring at the University of Vermont. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

JESSICA PREDOM AND AUTUMN ROZON
REGARDING TEENAGE STEREOTYPES

JESSICA PREDOM. People, when they hear the word "teen," think of bombs, fires, smoking, sex. Although some teens have experience with these things at a young age doesn't mean we all have. People these days are so hypocritical. Everyone was a teen, but

it is like, if people hit 30, they forget what being 18 is like. I know some kids have sex and do drugs, but a majority do not. Just because some teens do, teens like us get classified into a group we would rather not be in.

AUTUMN ROZON. Just the other day, I was looking at the back of Glade air freshener bottle, and it said: "Warning. Flammable. Keep away from small children and teens to avoid substance abuse." I can see where the small-children statement comes in, but keeping air freshener away from teens? I mean, come on. I didn't know our reputation was that bad. It's almost painful to see someone be turned down for a job because he or she has green hair and two piercings. Automatically, when you see a teen like that, you automatically think: Druggie. What most people think is not the true story. It is almost like an instance where someone hears part of your conversation and reacts before they know the whole thing. Now, my town is small, so when you are driving down Main Street, you see some kids sitting outside the grocery store, you think to yourself: They're up to no good. When, really, they're just waiting for their friend who works there.

A few years ago, there was an incident that we all remember. The tragedy at Columbine was one of the biggest scares to our country. Because of the shooting at Columbine, teens around the world were looked as something that could explode at any time. The headlines focus on the teen part of the shooting, and not on the main issue of the two kids who did it. By stereotyping like this, teens feel the need to rebel. Rebellion is the cause of most kid's sexual experiences and drug abuse.

The way our world looks at teens causes them to do certain things. If people could stop looking at us as teens, and look at us as young adults, we would start to accept ourselves and our community more. I think everyone has a good side, and people in our world are not letting teens express their good side. Don't judge us because of what we wear or what we look like. Take time to get to know us, and you will see that most of us do not do drugs, do not have sex, and do not drink. We have lives and we are trying to live them while we still can.

DANIEL MAY REGARDING STUDENT
REPRESENTATION ON SCHOOL BOARDS

DANIEL MAY. Good afternoon, Congressman Sanders.

I am presenting the issue of student representation on local school boards.

In our state of Vermont, there are 18 high schools that have at least one student representative on their board, while other high schools don't. I pity these schools who don't, because, by having at least one student on the school boards, there ought to be three impacts.

First, the boards will be able to make better decisions and be able to implement them more easily. Second, members of the student body will have raised political awareness of their school and the surroundings of their city. And third, the student representative will be provided with opportunities to assume leadership roles and gain skills.

Students should have a right for making their voices heard, because they are the people being affected by the school board's decisions. Silencing the voices of people you control isn't in the best interest of those governing bodies. Encouraging participation is a lesson that teachers need to take from the students.

I want to make sure that the students get their voices heard. I fear that some school boards may be inconsistent in allowing a student on the board. First of all, I'm concerned that some school boards will fail to